

Law Day 2016

MIRANDA

more than words

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY – ESSEX VICINAGE

LAW DAY 2016

RAP CONTEST RULES

Instructions: Thank you for your interest in the Law Day 2016 Rap Contest! Please register online at www.njcourts.com/essex/lawday.

Theme: Miranda: More than Words

"In 2016, the nation marks the 50th anniversary of perhaps the nation's best-known U.S. Supreme Court case, *Miranda v. Arizona*. The Miranda Warning has become ingrained in law enforcement and has permeated popular consciousness through countless recitations in films and television shows. Yet Miranda is only part of the story when it comes to the procedures for ensuring justice. The 2016 Law Day theme — **Miranda: More than Words** — will explore the procedural protections afforded to all of us by the U.S. Constitution, how these rights are safeguarded by the courts, and why the preservation of these principles is essential to our liberty."

2016 American Bar Association Law Day website

http://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_education/initiatives_awards/lawday2016.html

Resources:

- [Lawday.org](http://www.lawday.org) (American Bar Association's Law Day web site) – for in depth information about the Law Day 2016 theme.
- <http://www.uscourts.gov/educational-resources/educational-activities/facts-and-case-summary-miranda-v-arizona> for information regarding *Miranda v. Arizona*.
- <http://americanhistory.about.com/od/supremecourtcases/p/> provides a simple overview on *Miranda v. Arizona*

Content: The Rap Contest is open to **all grade levels**. Submissions should incorporate the Law Day 2016 theme and contain language pertaining to the theme and the court through the students' artistic expression. Submissions should be of the students' original work. Suggested content may include:

- 1) What is the purpose of amendments? What would happen if there were no amendments? What would happen if individual rights were not protected?
- 2) Discuss the benefits that the *Miranda v. Arizona* decision provides to individuals and society, and what society might look like without it.

Length: Submission must be between ten and twenty lines. **ALL ENTRIES MUST INCLUDE TYPED LYRICS** along with a recording of the vocal performance. Performances may be submitted in the form of audio CD, video DVD or flash drive (3 minutes maximum).

Judging: Submissions will be judged on content, presentation and originality.

1. Finalists must be willing to perform the rap at the awards ceremony.
2. Lyrics that include suggestive remarks, profanity, vulgar or inappropriate language will be disqualified.
3. Submissions from partnerships and teams as well as individuals are allowed. However, *all* participants must be identified.
4. One submission per student, partnership or team.

Identification: Each entry must include the following information:

- (1) Title of work (if applicable)
- (2) Student's name
- (3) Student's grade and age
- (4) School name
- (5) Teacher's name

Deadline: Submissions will be accepted between **March 1, 2016 – March 15, 2016**

Disclaimer: All entries become the property of the Superior Court of New Jersey - Essex Vicinage. Students are encouraged to keep copies of their entries. Excerpts from submissions may be displayed in Judiciary publications and/or website. Entries will not be used for commercial purposes.

Submissions: All submissions may be **mailed or personally delivered** to:

Superior Court of New Jersey - Essex Vicinage
Office of the Ombudsman
Information & Community Relations Center
50 West Market Street - Room 132
Newark, NJ 07102

If you have any questions please call (973) 776 – 9300 extension 56886 or email
EssexLawDay.mbx@judiciary.state.nj.us